

US008903591B1

## (12) United States Patent

Ferguson et al.

### (10) Patent No.:

US 8,903,591 B1

(45) **Date of Patent:** 

\*Dec. 2, 2014

# (54) CONTROLLING A VEHICLE HAVING INADEQUATE MAP DATA

(71) Applicant: Google Inc., Mountain View, CA (US)

(72) Inventors: **David I. Ferguson**, Mountain View, CA (US); **Dmitri Dolgov**, Mountain View,

CA (US)

(73) Assignee: Google Inc., Mountain View, CA (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

claimer.

(21) Appl. No.: 14/164,565

(22) Filed: Jan. 27, 2014

### Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 13/943,867, filed on Jul. 17, 2013, which is a continuation of application No. 13/465,348, filed on May 7, 2012, now Pat. No. 8,521,352.

(51) Int. Cl. G01C 22/00 (2006.01) G05D 1/02 (2006.01)

(58) Field of Classification Search

CPC . G05D 1/0061; G05D 1/0278; G05D 1/0033; G05D 1/0088; G05D 1/024; G05D 1/0242:

G05D 1/0248; G05D 1/0251; G05D 1/0255;				
G05D 1/0248, G05D 1/0251, G05D 1/0253, G05D 1/0257; G05D 1/0272;				
G05D 1/0257, G05D 1/027, G05D 1/0272, G05D 1/0274: G05D 2201/0209				
USPC 701/2, 23, 36, 41, 45, 408, 409, 300,				
701/301				
See application file for complete search history.				

### (56) References Cited

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,774,069	A *	6/1998	Tanaka et al 340/903
8,078,338	B2 *	12/2011	Pack et al 701/1
8,108,092	B2 *	1/2012	Phillips et al 701/23
2003/0058444	A1*	3/2003	Nara et al 356/394
2003/0134648	A1*	7/2003	Reed et al 455/456
2009/0248231	A1*	10/2009	Kamiya 701/23
2010/0256836	A1*	10/2010	Mudalige 701/2

<sup>\*</sup> cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Redhwan K Mawari (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

#### (57) ABSTRACT

A vehicle can be controlled in a first autonomous mode of operation by at least navigating the vehicle based on map data. Sensor data can be obtained using one or more sensors of the vehicle. The sensor data can be indicative of an environment of the vehicle. An inadequacy in the map data can be detected by at least comparing the map data to the sensor data. In response to detecting the inadequacy in the map data, the vehicle can be controlled in a second autonomous mode of operation and a user can be prompted to switch to a manual mode of operation. The vehicle can be controlled in the second autonomous mode of operation by at least obtaining additional sensor data using the one or more sensors of the vehicle and navigating the vehicle based on the additional sensor data.

### 20 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

